

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of producing a salt of dinitramidic acid, comprising (1) nitration of an initial compound with a nitrating acid mixture to form dinitramidic acid in a an acidic reaction mixture, ~~characterized by~~ (2) adding to the acidic reaction mixture a positive ion which ~~with the dinitramide ion~~ forms an ion pair complex with dinitramide ion, ~~that~~ (3) precipitates precipitating the salt of dinitramidic acid from in the acidic reaction mixture, which is acidic at the time of precipitation, and (4) separating the salt of dinitramidic acid precipitate from the reaction mixture.

2. (Currently amended) The method of ~~A method as claimed in~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the positive ion originates from a basic nitrogen compound as a ring compound or chain compound with one or more nitrogens and one or more carbons.

3. (Currently amended) The method of ~~A method as claimed in~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the positive ion is protonated guanylurea.

4. (Currently amended) The method of ~~A method as claimed in~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the positive ion is added

by the reaction mixture being mixed with an aqueous solution of a guanylurea salt.

5. (Currently amended) The method of ~~A method as claimed in~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the positive ion is added by guanylurea being reacted with the reaction mixture to form protonated guanylurea in situ.

6. (Currently amended) The method of ~~A method as claimed in~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the positive ion is added by the reaction mixture being mixed with an aqueous solution of guanylurea.

7. (Currently amended) The method of ~~A method as claimed in~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the positive ion is added by cyanoguanidine being reacted with the reaction mixture to form protonated guanylurea in situ.

8. (Currently amended) The method of ~~A method as claimed in~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the positive ion is added by the reaction mixture being mixed with an aqueous slurry of cyanoguanidine.

9. (Currently amended) The method of ~~A method as claimed in~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the separated precipitate from step (4) is used as a starting material for the preparation of other dinitramide salts, and further wherein the added positive ion from step (2) is recovered and is re-used in the production of dinitramide salts.

10-13. (Cancelled)

14. (New) A method of producing a salt of dinitramidic acid, comprising:

- (1) nitration of ammonium sulfamate with a mixture of HNO_3 and H_2SO_4 to form a reaction mixture;
- (2) mixing cyanoguanidine with the reaction mixture from step (1) to form a precipitate in the reaction mixture; and
- (3) separating the precipitate from step (2) from the reaction mixture.

15. (New) A method of producing a salt of dinitramidic acid, comprising:

- (1) nitration of ammonium sulfamate with a mixture of HNO_3 and H_2SO_4 to form a reaction mixture;
- (2) mixing guanyurea nitrate with the reaction mixture from step (1) to form a precipitate in the reaction mixture; and
- (3) separating the precipitate from step (2) from the reaction mixture.